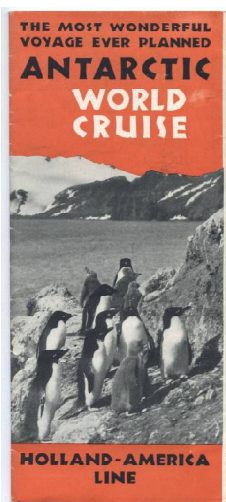


ANTARCTIC CRUISE MEDALS

According to Robert Headland of the Scott Polar Research Institute, the first tourists in the Antarctic visited the sub-Antarctic islands of Campell Island, Auckland Islands and Macquarie Island in 1891 aboard a New Zealand government vessel. Very limited numbers of tourists continued to visit aboard research vessels up through the 1930s.



A very ambitious world cruise was planned by the Holland America Line, aboard the S.S. Volendam. The cruise would depart New York on Dec. 15, 1931. The itinerary called for it to reach Auckland, New Zealand on January 17, and then head south. They would be in the Ross Sea approximately January 27, and after cruising the Sea, would return to Hobart, Tasmania on February 10. After circumnavigating the globe, the cruise would arrive back in New York on April 18, 1932. Headland states "The voyage, after all, for a variety of circumstances, did not take place." They did, however, produce a nice brochure (left, reduced).

It was not until 1958 that a commercial cruise ship reached Antarctic waters. The Argentine vessel Les Esclaireurs made two voyages in January and February, carrying about 100 tourists per cruise. The following year, cruises were conducted by both Argentina and Chile.

In 1959, the Motonave (motor ship) Yapeyu, captained by Juan Carrere carried about 260 passengers to South Shetlands and the west coast of the Antarctic Peninsula, including Deception and Melchior bases. The cruise was organized by the National Tourism Ministry(M.T.N.) and the Argentine Naval Lines Company (Flota Argentina de Naveg. de Ultramar). A neat medal was issued, we assume as a souvenir for the passengers. It is shaped like a ship's wheel, and is about 36mm, including the loop for hanging. The obverse bears the legend "1R Crucero de



F.A.N.U. Ala Ant. Arg. / Motonave Yapeyu" (translation - 1st cruise of F.A.N.U. to Argentine Antarctica/ Motor vessel Yapeyu). The center is enameled blue, with a crude map of the tip of South America and the Antarctic Peninsula and a bird in white. The reverse reads "Flota Argentina de Naveg. de Ultramar / M.T.N." The flag of F.A.N.U. is in the center and enameled in black and white. The medal appears to be silver, but it is unmarked.



(continued on page 8)

EDITORIAL

Who would have thought there would be souvenir medals for tourist cruises to the Antarctic? Once again, eBay has been a blessing for bringing to light interesting items. Your editor, being bored from not buying any Yukon tokens recently, has developed an interest in this area. Any others?? I'm just watching eBay for more to pop up!

Of all the items illustrated, the brochure for the cruise that never happened is by far the neatest. It folds out to a very large size, with full itinerary and map. It would be nice to know why the cruise was cancelled.

Ron Benice's *Mystery Tokens* continues to pay dividends. Kurtis Hawk has some thoughts on two pieces, and the owner of Tony's Recreation in Barrow chimes in with a short piece on that establishment. It appears that Tony's Recreation and Working Man's Bar in Fairbanks are post-statehood. I would not advocate removing them from "Alaska Tokens" in the third edition (working on it, right Ron?), but it is something that the cataloguer will have to think about.

Old time collector Henry Parker stopped in and let us scan some of his tokens that we had not seen before. Nothing exciting in this grouping. However, we are saving one token for the March issue that you will find interesting.

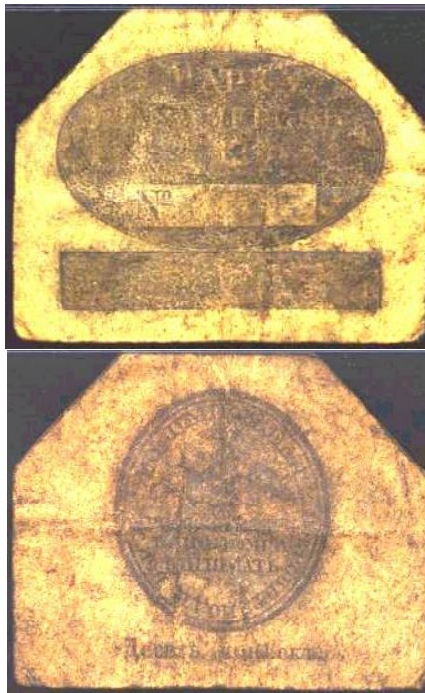
Our next auction will be either mid to late March or early April. Our publishing schedule will be modified if need be so you will have the Alaskan portion of the sale with ample time to bid.

Editor - Dick Hanscom
Associate Editor - Jerry Cleworth
Anchorage Correspondent - vacant
Canadian Correspondent - Jerry Remick
Yukon Correspondent - Jim Robb
Scandinavian Correspondent - Jorgen Somod

Subscription Rates: (all first class or airmail)
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PRICES REALIZED



Courtesy of Heritagecoin.com.

From the 2002 Orlando, FL (CAA) Signature Sale Russian-America (Alaska) Sealskin Money. 10 Kopeks. A very scarce item with a fascinating history. These notes were circulated by the Russian-American Company, which, by decree of the Czar, was given a monopoly on trading within Russian America, or, as it is now known, Alaska. Five issues are known, dating from 1816 to 1852, all designed to facilitate the fur trade by being redeemable in goods at the company's stores. Of all the notes issued, about 125 survive today, a fair proportion of them in museums or other institutions. This example is from the rare second issue of 1822. It is printed on yellow parchment stock with black ink printing. The upper corners are clipped, but the piece is in considerably nicer shape than many of the known survivors. If rarity and desirability are any guide, this early Alaska note will realize... **P.R. - \$4,887.50**

* * * * *

"The Alaskan Parchment Scrip of the Russian American Company, 1816-1867," by Randolph Zander, published by the Russian Numismatic Society, 1996, 48 pages, profusely illustrated. **\$12.00**

This book is an essential part of any Alaska numismatic library. I just noticed that we left this off our last price list! Please include \$3 for postage and handling. If you order from the items on the last page, please include only \$3 total for postage.

ANTARCTIC CRUISE MEDALS, CONT.

During the season of 1974/1975, the Argentine ministry of tourism organized seven cruises on the ship *Regina Prima*, with itineraries including the Antarctic Peninsula and the Falkland Islands. Approximately 2500 tourists visited the Antarctic on these cruises. A medal was struck as a souvenir. The obverse has the legend “Cruceros a la Antartida Argentina / 1974-75”, with a line drawing of a whale. The reverse reads “Bienestar Social / Ministerio del Pueblo / Secretaria de Estado / de Deportes y Turismo” (translation - Social Welfare Ministry of the town (community = country?), Secretary of State for Sports and Tourism). There is a small stamp “alpaca”, indicating metal content, an alloy of aluminum and bronze. The medal is about 36mm, including the loop for hanging.



References:

Robert Headland, Historical Development of Antarctic Tourism, in *Annals of Tourism Research*, Vol. 21, #2, 1994.
Thomas G. Bauer, *Tourism in the Antarctic; Opportunities, constraints and Future Prospects*, London, 2001.

TONY'S RECREATION

The Tony's Recreation tokens were created in 1963 to use as a substitute for making change and use at our business. There was a limited supply of coinage in Barrow, Alaska, as there was no local bank at that time.

A.E. Schintz was a pool table manufacturer in St. Louis, Missouri, and we had purchased pool tables from them. They also made tokens. We purchased a small amount of tokens to try out on a trial basis. Our pool players didn't really accept them so we used them to keep track of the pinochle games.

The tokens caused a problem. We were right next door to a church. The church had a State Trooper come investigate the use of the tokens. There were several tokens on the table, so we got raided for playing poker and the Troopers confiscated the tokens and cards off the table. When we went before the Magistrate, the Magistrate told the Trooper that you can't play poker with pinochle cards and the tokens weren't legal tender. After that we retired the tokens. I had them in storage in my home.

On October 4, 1963 a storm destroyed 17 homes in Barrow, mine included. My personal coin collection and the tokens washed out to the Lagoon and the Ocean and sank along with all our belongings. There are very few Tony's Recreation Center tokens in existence and the business went out of operation in 1965 when I moved to Nome and my partner, Max Ungarook changed the name to “Max's.”

-Tony Krier

FAIRBANKS FEEDBACK

Judy's Place: I never found any Fairbanks business named “Judy's Place” but there was one business named “Judy's Gift Shop”. This business was located at 327 Cushman St. and in business from 1957 through 1959. In 1957 I do not know who owned it, but for 1958-1959 Betty and Eug R. Williams owned it. Has anyone found “Judy's Place” listed anywhere?

Working Man's Bar: This business was in Fairbanks from 1961 to 1966. I do not know if they were in business in 1967 (I don't have access to 1967 Fairbanks Polk and phone directories). From 1968 to 2000 there are no listings. The business was located at ¾ mile Richardson Highway. The 1961 owner was Dallas Denny. Ownership for 1962-1963 is unknown. Darrell Thompson was the owner in 1964. Darrell Thompson and Edward A. Kubliu were the owners in 1965 and 1966.

(submitted by Kurtis Hawk)

W.A. LEMKE - JUNEAU



JUNEAU: W.A. Lemke, good for 1 loaf of bread. Aluminum, 29mm (submitted by Harold Fossum).

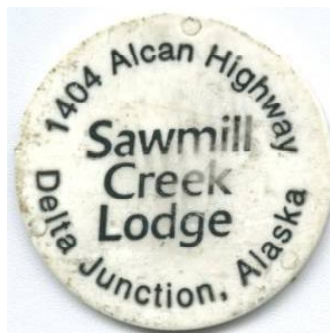
FOR THE RECORD



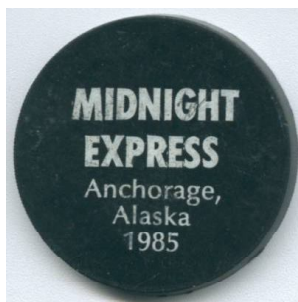
ANCHORAGE: American Legion, Spenard Post #28, one drink. White on blue plastic, 28mm.



ANCHORAGE: Elks Lodge 1351, one drink. Gold on black plastic 30mm.



DELTA JUNCTION: Sawmill Creek Lodge, one beer or mixed drink when you get a round TUIT. Black on white plastic, 41.4mm.



ANCHORAGE: Midnight Express, Premium Drink. White on black plastic, 38mm.



FAIRBANKS: Comet Club, one drink. Gold on white plastic, 41mm.



ANCHORAGE: North Starlight Lounge, one drink. White on light blue plastic, 28mm.



CHATANIKA: Chatanika Lodge, one drink. Silver on brown plastic, 41mm. (illustrated next column).

FAIRBANKS: American Legion, C. Russell Huber Post 57, one drink. Purple aluminum, 32mm.

All items on this page submitted by Henry Parker.

NEW FOR FEBRUARY



ALASKA HIGHWAY BY THE ALASKA MINT: OK, so this is not new. It is item number 1100 on our last price list. Only a few on hand. We have seen Alaska Mint list this for more than \$150. Let's reduce the price - **\$75.00**



This set of three medals was made by the same folks that brought us the 12 piece Trans-Alaska Pipeline medal set. The common obverse features a map of Alaska with the pipeline. The reverses honor the American Revolution Bicentennial. These are struck in 1 ounce silver, bronze and zinc. Set of 3 - **\$30.00**



Jack Coghill: This medal was struck in 1994 when Jack was running for governor on the Alaska Independence Party ticket. Same reverse die as the Joe Vogler medal. One ounce silver, a bit larger in diameter (40mm) than the standard 1 ounce silver. We don't see these very often, only one in stock. **\$28.00**



FRANKLIN MINT ALASKA MEDAL: Minted by the Franklin Mint as part of one of their series. This one is gold plated sterling silver. Attractive **\$15.00**

GREENLAND

We don't see very many items from Greenland. The first is a 1989 "Piastre", one ounce silver medal, a bit smaller (32mm) than the usual 1 oz. , but thicker. **\$30.00**



I think we have offered these before. This time, they are struck in brass and cupronickel. I just find it amusing that we have "Space Warning Squadrons." Now, I know this is for ballistic missile defence, but I can't help thinking of *E.T.* and *Close Encounters of the Third Kind!* **\$8.00 each**

Postage is \$3 per order. ARC, P.O. Box 72832, Fairbanks, AK 99707